

Few Fireworks for 'Tammy' and Weekend Box Office

By BROOKS BARNES

LOS ANGELES — It opened against very light competition, and over the Fourth of July holiday weekend no less. Warner Bros. pumped it with marketing support. Its star, Melissa McCarthy, aggressively trotted the publicity circuit.

And yet "Tammy" arrived on tiptoe. Extending a bleak streak for Warner and leading to questions about the limits of Ms. McCarthy's R-rated comedic style, "Tammy" took in an estimated

\$21.2 million over the weekend, for a total of \$32.9 million since arriving in wide release on Wednesday. Based on pre-release surveys of potential ticket-buyer interest, several box office analysts had projected a five-day total closer to \$45 million.

The poor turnout for "Tammy" contributed to the weakest Fourth of July box office results in a decade, studio executives said. Viewership of the World Cup and the Friday timing of the holi-

day probably contributed. Compared with last year, when "Despicable Me 2" and "The Lone Ranger" arrived in theaters, sales for the weekend were down 34 percent, according to Rentrak, which compiles ticketing data.

Among new films in wide release, "Tammy" competed with a horror picture, "Deliver Us From Evil" (Sony), and a family entry, "Earth to Echo" (Relativity), each of which took in less than \$10 million between Friday and

Sunday.

The No. 1 movie over the weekend was Paramount's "Transformers: Age of Extinction," with \$36.4 million, for a two-week North American total of about \$174.8 million. "Age of Extinction" is a runaway hit in a summer that has had

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Melissa McCarthy incognito in the Warner Bros. comedy "Tammy."



RANDY HARRIS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Brutalist-style Orange County Government Center in Goshen, N.Y., closed since 2011, and designed by Paul Rudolph, may get a shot at preservation.

Rethinking a Spurned Landmark

By ROBIN POGREBIN

As an architect, Gene Kaufman doesn't typically save buildings; he designs them.

But when he heard of plans to change Paul Rudolph's celebrated but shuttered government building in Goshen, N.Y., as part of a renovation plan, he decided to step in.

"To lose a building like this would be a tragedy," said Mr. Kaufman, a partner at Gwathmey Siegel Kaufman Architects in New York City.

He has offered to buy and restore the 1967 building, which architecture experts hail as a

prime example of raw Brutalist style and others consider an eyesore in a town known for its historic harness-racing track and Greek Revival, Federal and Victorian houses.

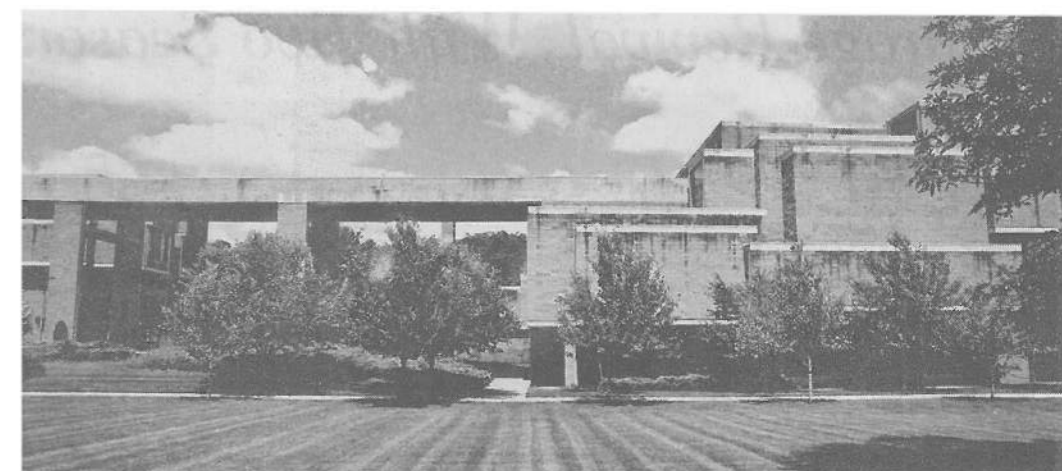
Under Mr. Kaufman's plan, the government building designed by Rudolph and owned by Orange County, would be turned into a center for artists, exhibitions and community meetings. He has also offered to design a new government center on the land that is now the building's parking lot.

Mr. Kaufman is not proposing a cash pur-

chase, but suggests the county can afford to renovate the existing building and build a new one with the money it will save from, among other things, his discounted consulting fees and the elimination of its demolition costs.

It is unclear if county officials will go for Mr. Kaufman's plan. But they have decided to entertain the possibility of jettisoning their existing renovation plan in favor of building a new government center. A request for design proposals for a new building went out last week.

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RANDY HARRIS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The 1967 Orange County Government Center has been deemed eligible for landmark designation.

Rethinking Fate of a Spurned Landmark

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The rethinking comes just as the planned overhaul of the Rudolph building was to have begun. The State Legislature had already approved \$74 million in bonding for the project, which entailed renovating some sections and reconstructing others. But then the county learned that because of the building's architectural significance — it has been deemed eligible for landmark designation — the renovation plans required state and federal historic preservation review, a process that could take more than a year.

Dain Pascoello, a spokesman for the Orange County executive, Steven M. Neuhaus, said the decision to consider selling the gov-

ernment center, and building a new one, came in response to concerns that the renovation plan would not survive that review. It was not a response to Mr. Kaufman's proposal, he said.

The fate of the government center has hung in the balance since it was closed because of storm damage in 2011. Edward A. Diana, then the county executive, argued for demolishing the building, which caused a national outcry among preservationists. One of America's leading architects in the 1950s and '60s, Rudolph was known for his rough-hewn Brutalist style and use of concrete, most famously in Yale's 1963 Art and Architecture Building.

Some Goshen officials say Rudolph's complex, which features protruding cubes and a corrugated concrete facade resembling corduroy, isn't worth preserving, that it should be sold and a new government center constructed elsewhere.

"I don't consider it an historic building," said Leigh J. Benton, an Orange County legislator. "I just consider it to be a cluster of concrete slabs."

"I'd love to have a new building," Mr. Benton added. "We should start completely over."

Those who have championed the Rudolph building's preservation say they welcome Mr. Kaufman's proposal. "It could be a really good jolt for economic development in Goshen," said Vincent Ferri, a preservation advocate.

Mr. Kaufman's firm has a history with Rudolph, having restored his building at Yale in 2008. Mr. Kaufman, who designed hotels for the New York City developer Sam Chang, purchased a majority stake in Gwathmey Siegel & Associates in 2011, adding his name to the firm.

He called the government center possibly the most important building architecturally in all of Orange County. "Unfortunately, Paul Rudolph has relatively few monumental public buildings that he created," Mr. Kaufman said.

"It could sustain itself and be a contributing element to the com-

munity," he added. "It's an excellent building for artists to use. We all know the arts have been the first wave of rejuvenation in many neighborhoods."

He pointed to artist studios developed by Ted and Marianne Hovivian, Brooklyn furniture executives, in a warehouse at 56 Bogart Street in Bushwick. Mr. Kaufman has been working with the Hovivians on possible development of the Goshen site, as well as with local architects, like Francis C. Wickham, who used to work for I. M. Pei.

"It would put some new life into the Village of Goshen," Mr. Wickham said, "and the county would be out of dealing with this Paul Rudolph building they don't quite know what to do with."

In an interview last week, Mr. Kaufman said he would preserve "all the major elements of the building," but might alter certain aspects of the interior, like removing some partitions.

Mr. Kaufman said his plan would save the county an estimated \$10 million. He offered to do the design work on both buildings for \$7.9 million, or \$5 million less than the \$12.9 million consulting fee allocated by the county for the renovation.

In addition, he said the county would, among other things, save \$3 million in estimated demolition costs and would qualify for federal funds that the current renovation plan does not, because the proposed changes were so extensive. He has also pledged to cover any overruns in design costs.

Sean Khorsandi, co-director of the Paul Rudolph Foundation, said of Mr. Kaufman's plan, "We do support the premise that to date, this is the only proposal to promote no demolition of the Rudolph work."

Should another preservation-minded proposal ultimately prevail over Mr. Kaufman's, he said he would be fine with that. "I'm not doing this with the idea of making money," he said. "If somebody else gets to save the building, I'll feel very good because the objectives have been achieved."